Subject No. 350.
Improvement and maintenance of kigkalves under river channels.

Summary of discussion.—At present Government repairs and regulates the flow and distribution of water in the main river channels only. The minor distribution channels drawn from these main river channels are left to the raiyats to be looked after by them. Some of these so called minor channels are of great length and some magnitude. Often silt and weeds are not cleared in them. The land is ploughed up so near the bund that when it is flushed with water, the bund is undermined and crumbles down. The bunds are also worn out by cattle grazing on them. They are often cut into by the nearest land holder for drawing more water for his field. The greater the obstruction or mischief in the higher reaches of the channel the greater the inconvenience and loss to those who hold lands near the lower reaches of the channel. And as many people's business is often nobody's business, these obstructions and mischiefs long remain unremedied. The labor of maintaining these kigkalves is often unduly great and there is the less reason to inflict this labor on the raiyats as the assessment on lands served by these kigkalves is at the same rates as those imposed on lands served directly by sluices in the main channel. It is therefore requested that these kigkalves may be repaired and maintained by Government as the main channels are, and that the flow and distribution of water therein may be regulated by fixed iron or earthern pipes of suitable dimensions proportionate to the areas to be respectively served by them.

Dewan's reply.—This cannot be done as a rule. But individual kigkalve of special magnitude may be ordered to be maintained and conserved by Government. (See also Subject No. 169 *supra.*)

Subject No 351.
More bridges required across channels.

Summary of discussion.—More frequent facilities for crossing channels are required. At present bridges for carts and even bridges for foot passengers are few and far between and considerable inconvenience is felt by people living on one side of the channel with fields on the other side to cultivate. Manure, seed grain and plants and agricultural implements have to be carried on the heads of men and women wading through waist or chest deep of water to avoid the long distances one has to go for reaching a bridge. The inconvenience is equally great when the harvest has to be carried home. It is therefore requested that there might be foot and cart bridges at least every one mile. Permission should also be granted to drive carts on channel bunds where this may be possible. At present raiyats are prosecuted for a channel offence if a cart is driven on the bund even where the width of the bund allows of this being done.

Dewan's reply.—The Public Works Department will be instructed accordingly.